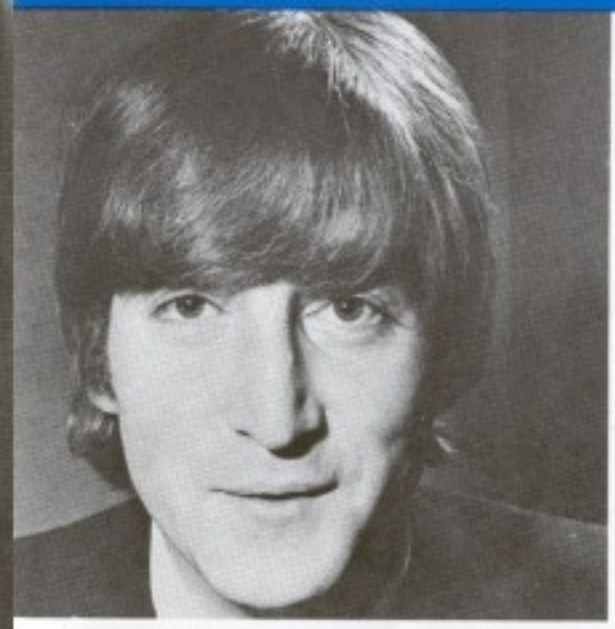
The Beatles MONTHLY BOOK

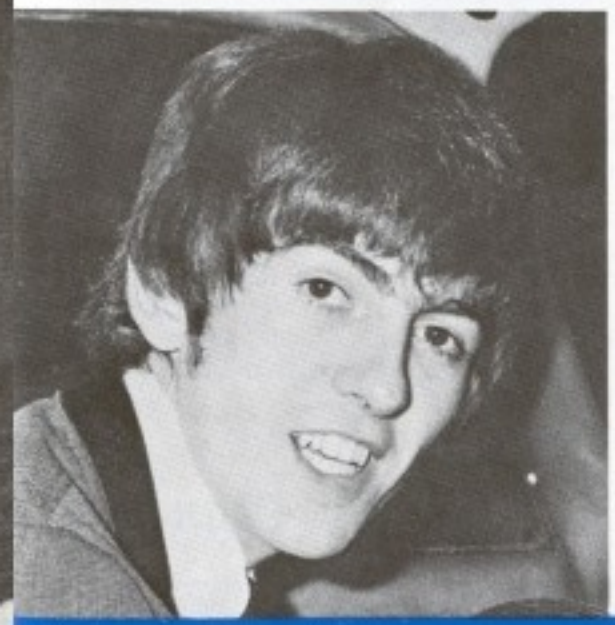
CHRISTMAS ISSUE

No. 17

DEC. 1964

2nd YEAR





EVERY MONTH • Price ONE SHILLING & SIXPENCE

The Beatles Book

The Beatles' Own Monthly Magazine

DECEMBER 1964

Price in America and Canada 50 cents

Published in association with
BEAT PUBLICATIONS LTD.
London Offices
244 EDGWARE ROAD, LONDON, W2

POSTAL SUBSCRIPTIONS:
G.B. only £1-1-0 per annum
(Single copies 1/9 by post)
U.S.A. & CANADA 5 DOLLARS per year

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Beatles cartoons by Bob Gibson
Beatles Book Photographer - Leslie Bryce, A.I.B.P., A.R.P.S.

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Editorial

Hi!

CHRISTMAS WOULDN'T BE QUITE THE SAME without a new Beatles L.P., would it? Their new one, "Beatles For Sale", will be out at just the right time to make a perfect Christmas present for a host of Beatle people everywhere.

DO YOU REMEMBER the first Beatles' show you ever saw? I certainly do, even though it's a couple of years ago now. The fantastic enthusiasm of the boys on stage captured the imagination of everyone in the audience. It was very interesting during their recent tour to sit in the stalls once again and watch the Beatles' performance . . . just to make a comparison. As soon as the curtains opened to reveal the Beatles on stage, their incredible magic started to work. Nothing had changed.

THEY HAVEN'T CHANGED MUCH backstage either. Road Manager, Neil Aspinall, and Equipment Manager Mal Evans, organise everything very smoothly so that the boys can relax comfortably between shows. But the Beatles old desire to joke and pull every available leg keeps coming out all the time.

THEIR PLANS FOR THE FUTURE? John, Paul, George and Ringo all feel that recording and films are going to become more important because their fans all over the world can share in them equally. Personal appearances can't be continued at the same hectic rate, but they still want to do as many as possible.

IN THIS ISSUE, DIANA VERO, Brian Epstein's secretary, takes a very personal look at the Beatles as she knows them. And she certainly knows them better than most others. Also, there's a nine-pic profile of George with a special commentary by Billy Shepherd, who has seen the Beatles' lead guitarist in many different moods and situations. And on page 6 there's a Christmas Card to you—from "them" and everyone else on your Beatles' Book who would like to wish you all the very best for the coming Christmas.

See you in the New Year!

Johnny Dean Editor.

"No, I don't want my photo taken—I just want someone to sew on this button!"

The Official Beatles FAN CLUB

First Floor, Service House, 13 Monmouth Street, London, W.C.2.
Fan Club Telephone: London COVent Garden 2332

NEWSLETTER

December 1964

DEAR BEATLE PEOPLE,

The big secret is out! For months you've been asking just what John, Paul, George and Ringo will be giving to club members as a Christmas gift this year and we've been holding back the information to give you a pleasant surprise. Now, if you haven't already heard, we can confirm that the four boys have recorded another special disc which is being mailed out to more than 65,000 club members in time for Christmas. All sorts of other ideas for a "different" gift were discussed but, in the end, the boys agreed that last year's exclusive club record had gone down so well with everybody that a second similar production should be put in hand. As you read this page thousands of copies of ANOTHER BEATLES CHRISTMAS RECORD will be coming off the presses. Each one is being placed in a smart two-colour sleeve before being mailed out free of charge to every Beatle Person on the club's membership register.

WE MUST MAKE A SPECIAL POINT OF EMPHASISING THAT EXTRA COPIES OF THE CHRISTMAS RECORD WILL NOT BE AVAILABLE, NOR CAN COPIES BE BOUGHT BY NON-MEMBERS. THERE ARE JUST ENOUGH DISCS TO GO ROUND EVERYONE IN THE CLUB AND IF YOU ARE THINKING OF JOINING IT IS ONLY FAIR TO WARN YOU THAT YOUR APPLICATION AND INITIAL SUBSCRIPTION WILL NOW BE RECEIVED TOO LATE TO QUALIFY YOU FOR THIS YEAR'S GIFT.

For the first time this year members of the American Fan Club branch are to receive a specially modified version of the Christmas record. National President Lynn Hargrave in New York is busily preparing to send out copies to her members right now. Incidentally, we'd like to take this opportunity of repeating that American Beatle People can NOT be enrolled by us in London. All mail (including membership applications) from potential Beatle People overseas is posted back by us in London to whoever looks after the club's local affairs in the writer's own home country. For Americans the address of the official branch headquarters is:—

LYNN HARGRAVE, PRESIDENT,
BEATLES (U.S.A.) LTD.,
BOX 505, RADIO CITY STATION, NEW YORK, N.Y. 10019.

During their autumn tour of the British Isles the boys found stacks of letters and parcels waiting for them at each theatre they played. Most of their off-stage time was spent in the dressing rooms reading through letters from local fans. All four boys have asked us to say "Thank You" on their behalf to the writers of so many wonderful letters and the senders of such a fabulous pile of gifts. If YOU are one of the Beatle People involved the

George and John look at some Leslie Bryce photos of themselves. Looks like George has found a real funny one.

boys would like you to accept this paragraph as their way of acknowledging the pleasure your letters gave them during the tour.

How do you like The Beatles' latest single? Isn't "I Feel Fine" one of the very best numbers they've ever made? We certainly think so. And how about that terrific opening? It is good to know that there are fourteen more completely fresh recordings by our fabulous foursome in the offing before Christmas. The fourteen are gathered together on the new Parlophone LP "Beatles For Sale" which will be due in your local record store by the time you see this page.

Note to parents:—If you're planning to get a copy of "Beatles For Sale" as a Christmas gift for your daughter you'd better make sure she's not ahead of you in the queue at the record counter!

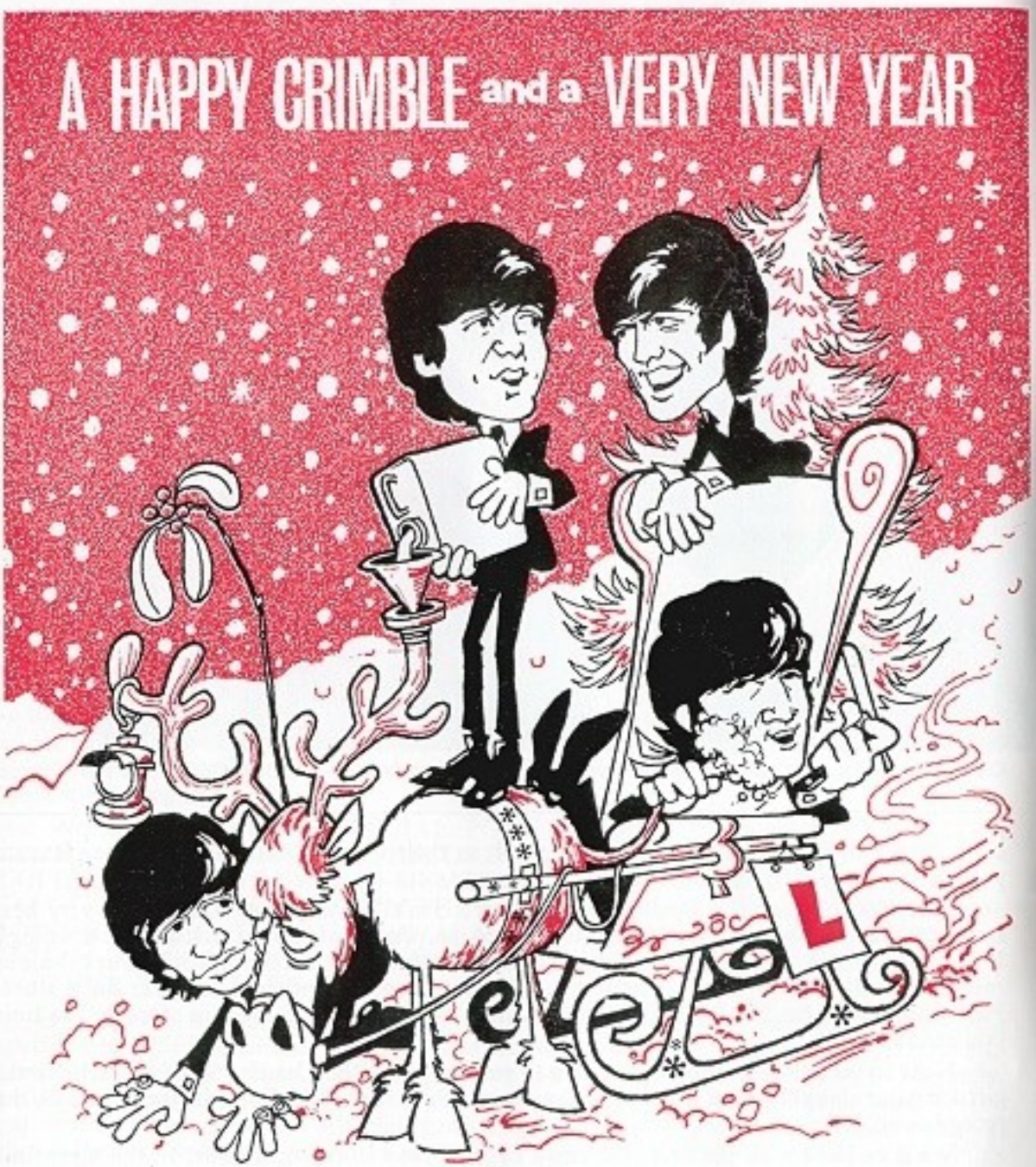
We'll be back with the first club news page of 1965 in the next issue. In the meantime everyone at the London Fan Club H.Q. joins us in wishing you and your family a very pleasant Christmas and a healthy, happy New Year.

Lots of good luck,

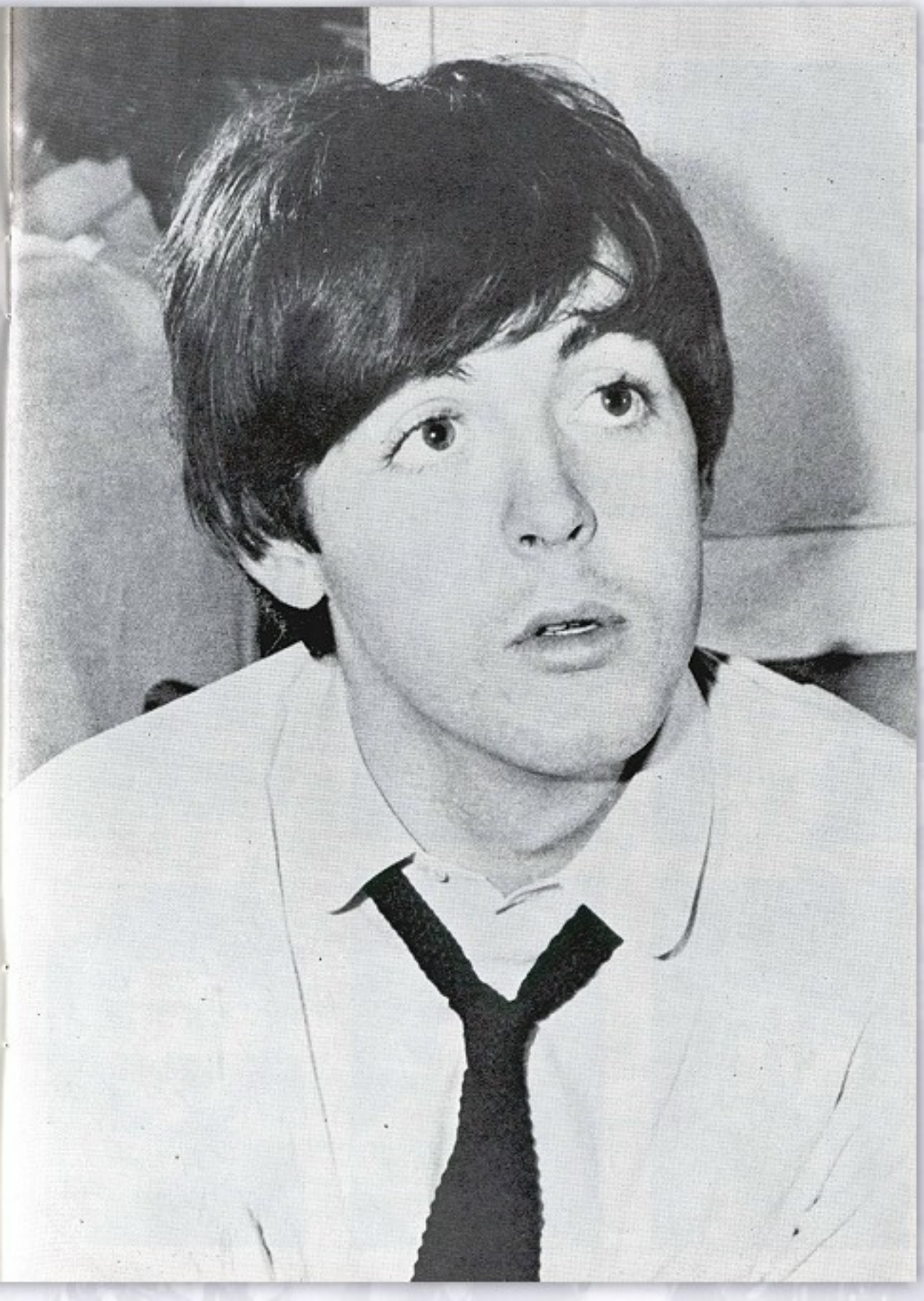
Bettina Rose Anne Collingham

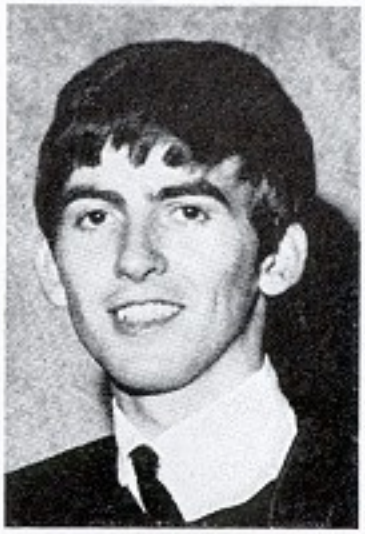
BETTINA ROSE, ANNE COLLINGHAM,

Joint National Secretaries of The Official Beatles Fan Club



Paul John George Ringo





THE FACES of GEORGE

A knack for creating instant friendship—that's a fair summing-up of George Harrison's personality. A good memory for faces, a genuine interest in hearing about other people's activities. But the welcoming smile is only one of the different faces of the Beatles' lead guitar-star who started building his individuality at school with brushes against authority over wearing the standard uniform.

There's the face of concentration. George concentrates to the exclusion of everything else when he is on stage or in a recording studio. His face furrows furiously as he ponders his flying fingers—only occasionally cracking into a grin as a specially good phrase emerges.

And the face of fury. This rather hard mask appears very infrequently—I've seen it when his privacy has been rudely interrupted in a hotel room by boorish intruders. George is affable with visitors; sometimes terse with gatecrashers. "How would you like somebody to barge into YOUR dining-room?" he asks.

The dead-pan face. This one is based on bland innocence and appears when George is in the middle of a particularly big mickey-take. He can send someone up for minutes on end without giving the game away—specially effective when he is on the phone! But he soon grins his way back to mateyness.

The head-scratching, eyes-upwards face. George is a walking encyclopaedia about Beatle-lore, can remember tiny incidents from way back. He speaks slowly, anxious to get every fact right as he digs back into pre-Beatlemania days.

There's the financial-wizard face. George has developed a flair for figures and a fine business-sense. He talks percentages and deals—and of his interest in big-business. This is an astute face . . . a face that simply can't be taken in by phoney logic.

And the animated muscle-moving face. This flashes on when he is listening to way-out R and B music from American artists.

There is, too, the roaring-with-laughter face. George takes things quietly most of the time. But if something really tickles him, his whole face lights up with a huge accompanying guffaw. It's hard to stop him. It's the off-beat things that get him in this state. Mere slapstick doesn't have much effect.

And there is the pensive face. George doesn't really like the big-star treatment. He thinks back to the early days of struggle and scraping and misses many of the little things of life. Like being able to go where he likes, when he likes, without causing a panic. George is often pensive, frequently thoughtful.

His face is lean—looks almost hollow-cheeked in some pictures. The teeth are pearly-white and even. It's a fab face. One that instantly reflects the Harrison mood of the moment. But he's probably happiest of all when he is concentrating with earnest application over his guitar.

BILLY SHEPHERD.

BEATLES FOR SALE

The titles on the Beatles' new Christmas L.P. are:—

Mr. Moonlight

Kansas City

Words of Love

Rock and Roll Music

Everybody's Trying To Be My Baby

Honey Don't

No Reply

Every Little Thing

What You're Doing

I'll Follow The Sun

Eight Days a Week

I Don't Want To Spoil The Party

I'm a Loser

Baby's In Black

Paul and John wrote the last eight titles—the rest are "oldies".

George takes the lead on "Everybody's Trying To Be My Baby" and Ringo's "special" on this L.P. is "Honey Don't". Most of the non Lennon-McCartney numbers were featured regularly by the boys at the Cavern.

John says: "The numbers on this L.P. are different from anything we've done before and you could call our new one a 'Beatles Country and Western L.P.' "

ON STAGE PIX

"Come on!" yells Ringo to John, Paul and George, "otherwise we'll be late onstage".

"Whoops! Watch the jelly babies!" says Paul while George does his own special number, "I'm Happy Just To Dance With You", from the film.

George gets ready for some fancy fingerwork as Paul launches into "Long Tall Sally".

"Hey, George!" mutters John, "How do you like Ringo's fancy new drumstick?"

The applause thunders on as four exhausted Beatles make their way back to the dressing room.

OUTSPOKEN BUT CHARMING

A personal look at The Beatles by Diana Vero

I first met the Beatles almost a year ago at a recording of "Thank Your Lucky Stars" in Birmingham. I had no idea then that in less than a year's time I would have become their Manager's secretary, and later travel round the States with them.

What impressed me most at that first meeting was their great sense of humour—they're always cracking jokes, and they didn't seem to mind the flood of autograph books that kept coming in, or the occasional fan that burst through the security guards into their dressing room.

ELDEST BEATLE

John Lennon—often described as the cynical member of the group—this is perhaps a true description, although my theory of his cynical look on stage is that he can't see beyond the edge of the stage—off stage he wears dark glasses (medicinal ones) and he doesn't look at all cynical. I always think of John as the eldest Beatle although he is in fact a few months younger than Ringo. I think this is probably because he is married, and he has an air of responsibility about him. Even if the Beatles had never happened, I think John would have—in some way, however small, showed up—perhaps as a writer of songs, or books (although some people may disagree with me on this point).

POEMS AND JOKES

We had many long plane trips travelling from city to city in America, and John would amuse everyone by making up rhymes, little poems and jokes, which will probably find their way into another book eventually. John is the most outspoken of the Beatles in many ways. One example of this happened when the boys were staying in a house in America (in the Hollywood suburb of Bel Air), and Jayne Mansfield had popped in to meet the Beatles. She arrived clad in a mauve cat suit, carrying an absurdly small dog, and accompanied by an enormous bodyguard. John happened to be the only one of the Beatles around at that time, although it had been Paul who had expressed a desire to meet her initially, and the first thing Jayne said to John, almost before being introduced, was "Is this real?" pulling his hair. John retaliated by saying, "Well are those real?" pointing at her . . . !

MOST CHARMING

Paul is perhaps the most charming of the Beatles—he worries about people—and is always the first to jump to his feet whenever the Beatles are introduced to anyone. He is the one who always said—even in the far back days of the Cavern—that the Beatles were going to be big. He is also, I think, the most polished performer on stage. He is always pleased to meet fans, and in America he insisted on meeting as many fan club presidents as he could. He really appreciates all the work the Fan Club Secretaries do. Paul loves kidding people and on one plane trip in America he took over the intercom system and said in a very American sounding accent, "This is the Captain speaking. We are about to make a crash landing—will everyone fasten their seat belts and remain calm." Well, for a moment everyone on the plane looked absolutely terrified, until we realised that it was Paul, and then,

of course, we all burst out laughing. Paul is also a born actor, and he has invented so many disguises for travelling around unrecognised, that sometimes even the other Beatles don't recognise him.

BUSINESS MINDED

George Harrison, the youngest Beatle, is perhaps the most business minded of them all. He wants to know what press work to do, what television shows to do, and where all the money is going! When I first met him he struck me as being rather quiet—he spends a lot of time practising his guitar—and although he doesn't sing as much as John and Paul he expresses himself on stage with complicated guitar chords and solo playing. I found out later that he is certainly not the quietest Beatle—in fact he never stops talking. In America he was asked at several press conferences why he was the least popular of the Beatles. Well, George looked quite astounded and said, "Oh am I." Well, whatever his popularity is like in America, it's certainly very high in this country. The last time I attended a Beatle concert which was quite recently, everyone seemed to be screaming for George, and the uproar that greeted any of his solo numbers was fantastic.

VERY KIND

Ringo is usually known as the 4th Beatle because he joined the group a mere two years ago. I think he is quieter than the others because of this fact—but Ringo is very kind. He is always willing to see fans and press reporters. He was immensely thrilled by his fantastic popularity in the United States—American fans go wild over Ringo—I think they feel he is slightly left out—but all thoughts he may have had in this direction must have been dispersed when he heard the uproar that greeted his number "Boys" in America. Ringo sometimes does really mad things—he was given a gun holster by Colonel Parker (Elvis's manager) while in the States, and he acquired some guns and a cowboy hat and went wild-west for an afternoon shooting everything and everyone in sight. He got so attached to his holster and guns that he almost went swimming with them on!

NEW CAR

Ringo passed his driving test recently, and when his instructor telephoned the office after the test, a very thrilled Ringo came to the phone to tell me that he had passed. He has now acquired a bright red American sports car—a Facel Vega. Ringo also shines way above the other Beatles as far as dancing is concerned. He is a marvellous dancer, and has a fantastic sense of rhythm.

All the Beatles are very proud of their cars. John has a maroon and black Rolls Royce—a splendid affair—John doesn't drive himself, so he has to have a chauffeur. Paul owns a steel blue James Bond type Aston Martin DB 5. It doesn't have an ejector seat though. He has only just bought this as he was suspended from driving for a year due to too many speeding offences! In America he was just longing to get back to drive this car, and now claims that it is the best he has ever driven. George owns a grey E-type Jaguar which he has had for some time now. All the Beatles enjoy driving fast, and they much prefer to travel by car than plane. George, especially, hates flying.

OFFSTAGE

Many people ask me what the Beatles wear off stage. Well, all of them like to dress casually. John has a mania for red polo-necked sweaters, and bright coloured shirts at the moment; Paul usually wears a suit and he likes blue shirts; George and Ringo like to wear jeans, and George bought several P. J. Proby type shirts in America which he wore nearly every day.

What impresses me most about the Beatles is that they still don't realise that all this has happened to them. I asked John once how he felt about all the fans screaming over him and he just said, "I still don't understand it—we're just the same as anyone else." I think this sums up the Beatles popularity and I love working for them.

"John? Haven't seen him for hours," says Ringo.

Dear Boys,

"*It wont be long*" before I go to a live Beatles Performance.

I saved up all my "*Money*" to see you so I've got to be careful 'cos if I lose my ticket I'll be in "*Misery*" and then "*I'll cry instead*".

My cousin is always asking me for one of my Beatles things because "*She loves you*" but I always tell her "*You can't do that!*"

"*I wanna hold your hand*" more than she does though, so I'll have to lock her up in "*Chains*" before she takes my ticket.

When I got there, "*If I fell*" to the floor in a faint, my mother would say "You're not going again, '*Not a Second Time!*" But most probably "*I'll be Back*" because I love you four "*Boys*" so much.

They say "*There's a Place*" for people as far gone as me, but I'll keep trying and someday "*I Get You*". "*From Me to You*",

Elizabeth,

"*P.S. I love you*".

78 St. John's Rd., Staveley,
Nr. Chesterfield, Derbyshire.

ODE TO TWO GOLDFISHES

Alas, Alack,
Ringo's dead, whack,
I found him floating on his back.

George is full of misery and woe,
He swims about with nowhere to go,
I fear there'll never be another Ringo.

Love from a Beatle Fan.

Dear J.D.,

Could you please ask John why he doesn't wear contact lenses, I'm sure it would make Leslie Bryce's job much easier. I wear glasses too (I'm short sighted!) and I'm thinking of getting some!

Hope to get a good answer back, all my love to the "Boys" especially George.

All my love,

Rosalind Naftel,
45 St. Albans Road, St. Annes-on-Sea,
Lancs.

John answers:—

I do wear contact lenses. Had them a few weeks now and for the first time I can actually SEE the jelly babies being thrown at me by the audience. Its lovely!

Dear Johnny,

In the October issue of "The Beatles Book" you wondered if there were any Beatles fans in Russia.

Well, this summer we had some friends over from Czechoslovakia and they went back armed with as many photos and pictures of the Beatles as they could get—cos they're Beatle mad over there too! I also gave them (a great personal loss) the record "Can't buy me love", as they can't buy Beatle records in their country (how awful!) What they do is listen to the radio and when they hear the Beatles singing, they take a tape recording of them—so my record will be quite popular!

The Beatles are obviously going to get their Kossack boots and hats on and . . . ch?

Lots of love,

Julie Thomas,
11 Juniper Drive, Salisbury, Wilts.

Dear Sir,

We are great fans of the Beatles in Japan. We really and truly love their music, all of them, and their wonderful personalities very much indeed. We zealously hope that they will visit us some day in the future and see their Japanese fans. We are sure that they will be pleased to meet us, and see our beautiful country.

One of my friends has a pen friend in Australia, and this Australian girl sent my friend one of your Beatles Books, and we learned your address.

Hoping to hear from you in the very near future.

Sincerely yours,

(Miss) Midori Ohta,
20, Sakuradani-chō, Nishinomiya City,
Japan.

Dear Johnny,

You said you wanted some information about the Beatles and although it isn't much, it may be useful.

One day before the Beatles became famous, John Lennon was sitting on my uncle's wall playing his guitar with a friend. The people in the street got angry with them because they were making such a row and told them to go. It happened in Woolton, Liverpool, near where John used to live. Little did they realise that that sound would soon be topping the charts.

Yours sincerely,

Miss Susan Brighouse,
80 Wessington Lane, South Wingfield,
Derbys.

P.S. I wonder if John can remember.

Dear Johnny,

While reading the letters in the Beatles Monthly No. 15 I noticed that one Beatle fan from Oxford said that she had received 21 letters (20 from America) in answer to her request for a pen pal.

Since I had my letters published in Beatles Monthlies Nos. 10 and 13 I have received well over 450 letters of all kinds from all over the world.

By far the greatest amount have come from America (over 250) the remainder coming from the following countries; England, Wales, Canada, Finland, Sweden, Denmark, Germany, South Africa, New Zealand and Australia.

Of these I chose 20 pen pals and answered hundreds of queries about the Beatles, as well as pairing up dozens of people I had to refuse. Although its been a bit of an expensive hard day's night answering them it has also given me a lot of satisfaction, and realising that there are many more Beatle people throughout the world than one suspects. I would therefore like to take this opportunity to thank all of those who have written to me and long may they continue, like myself, to be enthusiastic Beatle supporters.

Yours thankfully,

J. B. Park,
7 Union St., Stonehouse,
Lanarkshire, Scotland.

I hope you will manage to find space in your wonderful magazine to publish this letter.

Thanking you deeply for your co-operation in the past and wishing you luck and all four Beatles for the future.

Yours again,

J. B. Park

Johnny Dean answers:—

I hope that we have helped to start lots more pen friendships all over the world like this one.

Dear Johnny and Beatles

I thought you might like to know of an hilarious experience my mother and I had.

It was in Riccione, Italy, in August when the Beatles film was showing one night at the local cinema. In Italy the film was called Tutli Per Uno (all for one). I, and my friend, finally persuaded Mum to come and see the film, Dad did not come because he was convinced the words would be in Italian. My friend and I had already seen the film six times so we didn't mind if it was in a foreign language.

We arrived at the cinema about 10 p.m. because we thought the film would start at 10.30 p.m.—rather late but Italians are noted for staying out until the early hours of the morning. It was not until we had bought our tickets that we were informed the film would not start until 1 a.m. Mum wanted to go back to the hotel but it had cost us 10/- each so we decided to walk around and then return to see the film. When we got back at 12.30 a.m. there were about three hundred boys there and only a few girls. They made such a terrible noise that the police were called in to keep them under control. My poor mother was being crushed between several smashing looking boys (lucky dog) while my friend and I took it all as a huge joke.

The film didn't begin until 1.30 a.m. and when they finally let everyone into the cinema the boys charged through the curtains (they didn't have doors) and mum got literally dragged off her feet. They climbed over the seats and began shouting at the tops of their voices. When the film finally appeared on the screen, which was only about 15 ft. square, we found that they had replaced the characters' voices with Italian dialogue. The songs were sung in English so they were O.K. The Beatles sounded really peculiar talking in Italian but miming in English. A big roar was let out when "She Loves You" was sung. The film stopped three times for an interval and we didn't get out until 2.45 a.m. Dad was out looking for us and he was very mad we had got back so late. It was a great laugh and we had a marvellous time.

I am positive if the Beatles visited Italy they would be made especially welcome by the boys and I am sure they would be a great success (as usual).

Please give my special love to gorgeous George.

Lots of love,

Mary Holdsworth,
61 Carnarvon Road, Stratford, London E.15.

George answers:—

Thanks Mary. We've seen our film in a couple of foreign languages and we felt very peculiar when our mouths opened on the screen and out came somebody else's voices. Real weird!

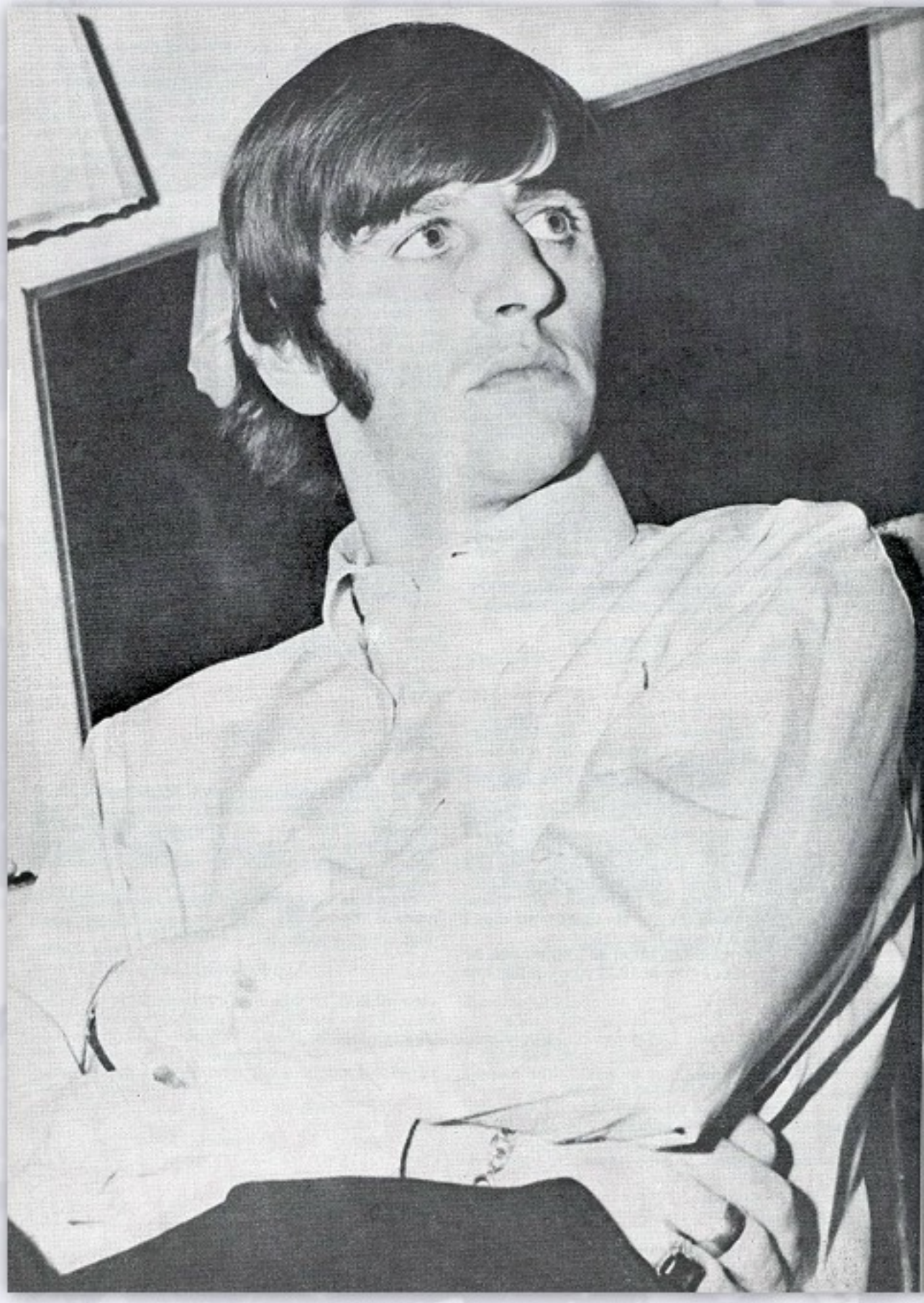
Dear John,

I've heard about your aunt Mimi and I think aunties are the most wonderful creatures in the world. Imagine! I have one in Oxfordshire who sends me every month *The Beatles Book ! ! !* It helps me a lot with my English, as it's the only thing I translate willingly.

From here I would like to say to you and to all the aunts in the world.

Lots of love,

Dora Banala,
La Roseraie, Contes, A.M., France.



by Billy Shepherd and Johnny Dean

Individuality: that's the key word that really sums up the career of the Beatles . . . and the point where we left, last month, our behind-the-scenes story of the triumphs of the epoch-making foursome. We were explaining how Brian Epstein, then a newcomer to group management, decided to "give the boys complete freedom".

So each Beatle pursued an individual course. Ringo, of course, tended to be the "odd man out" as the boys returned from their highly successful tour of Scotland with Helen Shapiro. He still felt he was a new boy. We remember asking him about his early school days and he said: "Come off it, nobody's interested in all that. It's the other three who matter, not me."

That was soon to change. But the others dominated the Beatle determination to be different from the other artistes on the scene. After all, there WAS a pattern. New stars all conformed, in that they immediately ordered shiny mohair suits and turned up on stage looking as if they all came out of the same grooming-school. The Beatles rejected this image . . . not as a result of long discussion, but because they didn't think for a moment of following the rest of the herd.

Appearances

It wasn't so much a matter of gimmicks. Their hair? Not really a gimmick, not at this time. They wore black suits, leather gear. They looked sombre in appearance—it was their personalities which made all the difference.

Dignity really didn't matter much to the Beatles. Where other fast-rising pop artistes put on the stuck-up, big-star, routines, the Beatles just didn't mind. If photographers wanted crazy and way-out pictures, the boys did their best to oblige. They'd pull any sort of mad-style faces. Recalls Johnny Dean: "They didn't, at any time, compose their minds . . . or their faces! They were just themselves."

No Formula On Stage

It was much the same on their stage appearances. Again, there was a formula for most groups. "Two steps to the right, one forward, make announcement, step back, smile, nod head in tempo, start playing." All that sort of rigid performance routine. The Beatles had nothing to do with such regimentation.

Paul explains: "The thing was that we were really pulling in the screams and it was impossible to adopt a set pattern of performance. Things happened in the audience that made us react according to the mood of the moment. On announcements, most of the words couldn't be heard, so John found himself just getting a word in edgeways wherever he could. There was no point in sticking to a script."

Most of the stage announcements came from the simple process of one or other Beatle simply pointing at the one who was next to do something! Nothing was completely fixed. They'd even confer on stage and alter the numbers they were doing. "Sometimes an audience needed building up; sometimes quietened down. So we ring

Ringo pictured in the boys' dressing room at the Hippodrome, Brighton.

Hello Boys—Having a good breakfast ?

"Do you mind not interrupting while we're eating our breakfast."

the changes," explained John at one backstage session. "We find it impossible to keep exactly to a set routine."

Best Sound Possible

And George chipped in with: "What we don't like are those groups who stick on fixed, mechanical grins when they're doing something happy—and turn on the sad-faced frowns when they're doing the old sincerity bit. We just like to get the best sound going that's possible under the conditions on stage and fill in the personality side in the way we feel at a particular moment."

Certainly no other group worked up such a sweat as the Beatles did on stage. Night after night, they came off, shirts literally sticking to Beatle bodies. Even if they'd had a bit of a party the night before, they never gave less than maximum. We remember various Beatles slumping in chairs in dressing rooms and looking at just about knock-out point. But happy, too. Beatles are always happy when they've had a taste of uninhibited applause.

They didn't mind being photographed with glasses containing a mixture of whisky and Coke. Or being "caught" by cameramen with cigarettes clearly on view. "Ciggies" is a word devised by the Beatles.

Their philosophy was simply that they did like the odd drink, did smoke . . . and it would be less than honest to try to hide the fact. Though Beatle pay-packets were fast getting bulkier, they'd often forget to carry cigarettes or loose change. That was true even when "Please Please Me" hit the top of the charts—surefire proof that the Beatles, and Liverpool, had hit the top of the pop world.

Even then, John and the others hit back in the face of usual "star behaviour". The Liverpool Sound was headlined all over the world. But the boys didn't think there even was such a thing! Said George, in what seemed like a million interviews: "When you think about it sensibly, our sound really stems from Germany. That's where we learned to work for hours and hours on end, and keep on working at full peak even though we reckoned our legs and arms were about ready to drop off."

Hamburg Stamp

"**Sure WE come from Liverpool.** There are hundreds of groups there, many on an R and B kick. But you won't hear us shouting around about a Liverpool Sound, or Merseybeat, simply because it's been dreamed up as an easy way to describe what's going on with our music. 'Hamburg Stamp and Yell' music might be more accurate. It was all that work on various club stages in Germany that built up our beat."

While the Shadows worked in mohair suits and performed steps in time with their music, the Beatles developed a frenetic form of head-shaking, hair flopping interminably round Beatle heads. Again, it was something that stemmed from their own individuality. Not from a set plan.

Ever try shaking your head in that crazy way? For most people it leads to a fast and splitting headache. How the Beatles, specially Paul, managed to keep it up for so long in those early days of stardom is another point that fascinates us. Paul said once: "I don't even know I'm shaking my head most of the time. It's just something that comes up from the music . . ."

No Lapels

Those early Cardin-designed suits worn by the Beatles . . . light grey, with no lapels. They contrasted with the black "gear" worn off-stage and came about because of a holiday John and Paul had in Paris. From being very disinterested (mostly because they didn't have the cash to become well-dressed young men), the Beatles were guided by Brian Epstein into taking a great interest in picking and choosing their own wardrobes.

The stage suits looked good on the one-nighter tours. But the actual SOUND of the Beatles was more important. Just by way of a change, audiences were getting the same sound on stage from a group as was on the record. In fact, the Beatles reckoned that they sounded even better on stage, most of the time, simply because they had the roar of an appreciative audience to urge them on.

To be continued next month in No. 18

IF I FELL

Written and Composed by **JOHN LENNON** *and* **PAUL McCARTNEY**

Recorded on the Beatles third L.P. "A Hard Day's Night", released on 7th August 1964

If I fell in love with you,
Would you promise to be true,
And help me understand,
'Cos I've been in love before,
And I've found that love was more,
Than just holding hands.

If I give my heart to you,
I must be sure,
From the very start,
That you would love me more than her,
'Cos I couldn't stand the pain,
And I would be sad if our new love,
Was in vain,
So I hope you see,
That I would love to love you,
And that she,
Will cry when she learns we are two,
'Cos I couldn't stand the pain. etc. . . .

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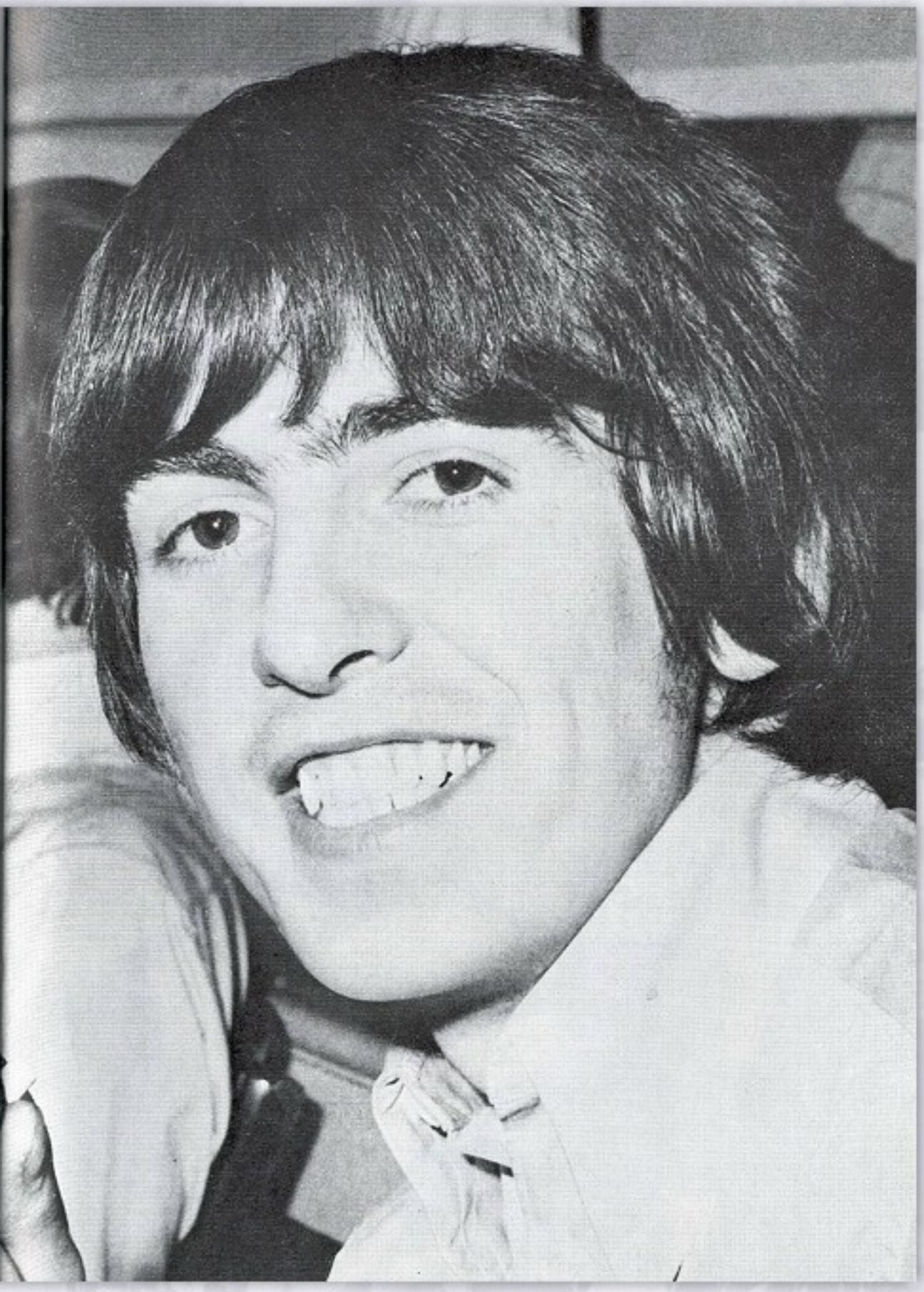

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In The DECEMBER issue of

BEAT INSTRUMENTAL

. . . JOHN LENNON-

The Contradictory Beatle!

ON SALE NOW

CHANGE AROUND

The Beatles plan to switch their instruments around for at least one of their numbers in their Christmas show at the Hammersmith Odeon.

Paul is going to play piano, John is going to take over bass guitar and George is going to play rhythm guitar instead of lead. At present, Ringo still plans to stay on drums.

SHORTAGE OF SHIRTS

Whilst the boys were touring in Scotland recently, they stayed at The Four Seasons Hotel near Loch Earn.

Their road manager, Neil Aspinal, sent all their shirts to the Laundry to be cleaned, but when he rang the laundry the following day they told him that they wouldn't be able to send them back until the following Friday.

Luckily they buy all their shirts from a shop in Glasgow and Neil was able to get the owner to open up his store and give him four more stage shirts.

But, until he got their laundry back, he had to wash the four shirts each night and everyone thought he was joking when he asked for a bar of soap and to be directed to the washbasin so that he could rinse them out!

HOME RECORDING STUDIO

John is having his new house completely redecorated, and one of the rooms is being equipped as a small recording studio. In future, he wants to make demos of new songs in the comfort of his own home.

BEATLE CAR PARADE

The boys could start an excellent, plushy car hire service with their impressive line-up of combustion engines on wheels.

Paul has a blue Aston Martin and a white Mini; George has a grey E-Type Jaguar and a green Mini; John has taken delivery of a Rolls Royce and still keeps his white Mini; Ringo has just bought a Facel-Vega and also thinking of buying an Imp.

They use their small cars for whipping around Central London, particularly when they're popping over to see each other or to meet before going on a date. They keep their big cars for long journeys.

Ringo has a lively dressing room discussion with saxophonist Griff West of Sounds Incorporated.

LANCASTER TO RINGO

While Ringo was in America he met Burt Lancaster who promised to send him some real shootin' guns. They haven't turned up yet but Ringo got a telegram last week which read:

HAVE NOT FORGOTTEN MY PROMISE TO SEND YOUR GUNS. CAN YOU ARRANGE IMPORT LICENCE SO THEY CAN GET BY YOUR CUSTOMS.

BURT LANCASTER.

WRONG SIZE

While the Beatles were in America, they had a load of clothes, cameras and equipment taken by fans, or by others, to be sold as souvenirs.

Their Press Officer, Derek Taylor, reports that his shirt was one of the items missing after staying in one hotel, but recently the collar was returned to him. The reason he got it back was because it had the wrong size stamped on it, which any Stateside Beatle fan knows wouldn't fit a Beatle.

Printed by The Thanet Press, Union Crescent, Margate, Kent, England.
Distributors: Surridge, Dawson & Co. Ltd., 136-142 New Kent Road, S.E.1. Telephone: RODney 5480.

Dressing room meal on their Autumn tour—Ringo and George tuck in while Paul's still looking for the salt.

If you have been unable to get your copy of "The True Story of the Beatles" from your local newsagent, you can get it direct from:

The Beatles Book, 244 Edgware Road, London, W.2

Just send a postal order for 5/6 (to include postage and packing) and a copy will be dispatched to you immediately.

BACK ISSUES

We regret that Beatles Books numbers 1, 3, 4 and 5 are now completely out of print. Back issues still available are 2, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15 and 16. Just send 1/9 Postal Order for each issue required to:
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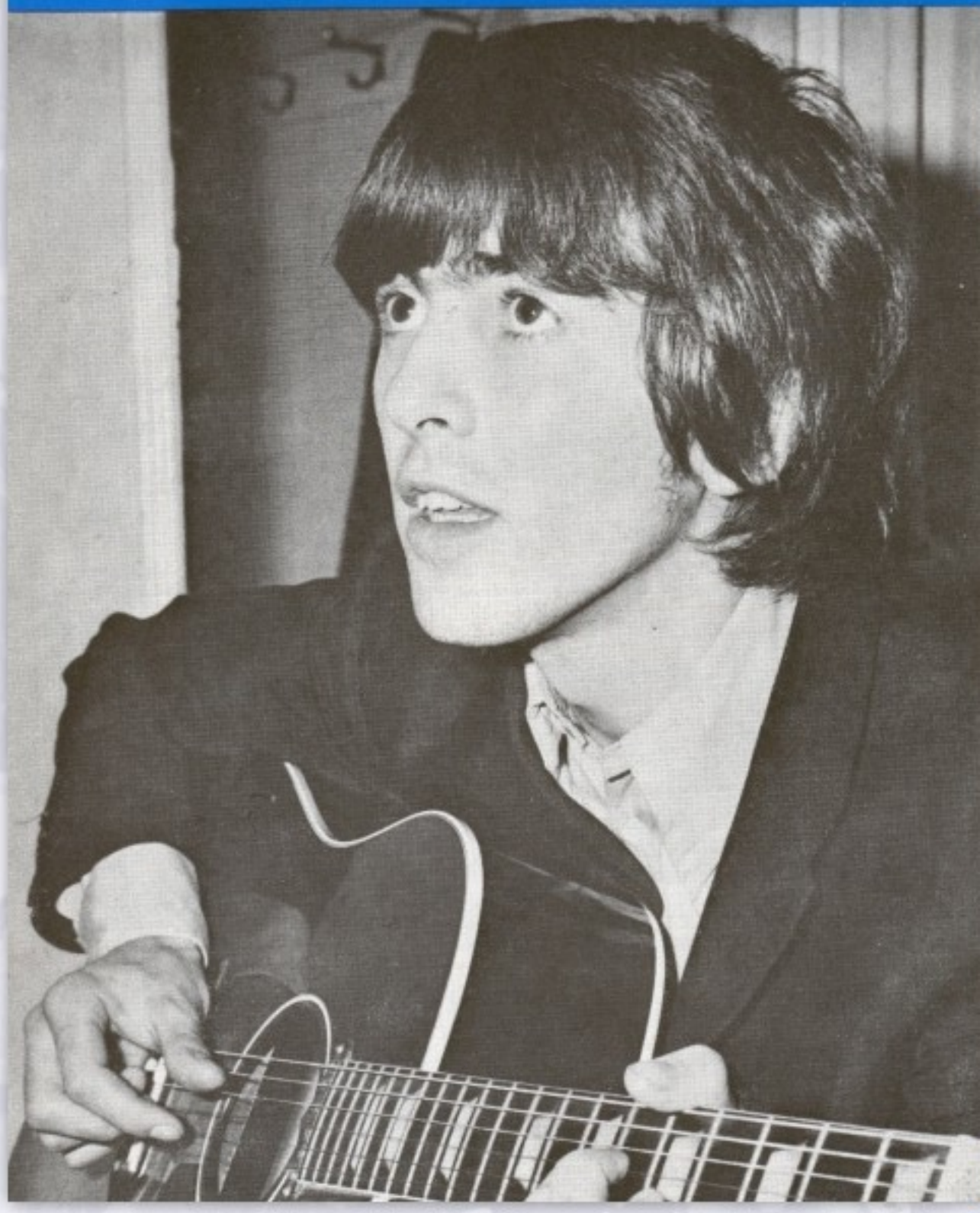
"Mind your feet," says John, "I'm trying to get some sleep!" (he's referring to George's boot sharing the same armrest.

THE Beatles BOOK

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